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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Cancel all claims of record and substitute new claims 36-70. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

36. A method for using a computer system, in response to a reader's request for display of electronic text, to automatically identify and provide additional reading material related to concepts referred to within said electronic text comprising, in sequence, the steps of:

a) accessing, using the reader's computer, electronic text requested for display by the reader, said electronic text containing at least one text section;

b) using said at least one text section to automatically formulate, on the reader's computer, a search request related to a concept referred to in said at least one text section;

c) responsive to said search request, automatically searching an index, wherein

i) said index contains a plurality of terms by which it may be searched;

ii) substantially all terms in said index are associated with at least one pointer to a text section; and

iii) at least one term in said index is associated with a plurality of pointers, at least two of said plurality of pointers pointing to different text sections;

d) responsive to step (c), automatically identifying additional reading material related to said concept; and

e) automatically displaying on said reader's computer display, an indicator of said additional reading material together with at least one link to a source of said additional reading material, side-by-side with a portion of the electronic text referred to in step (a).

37. The method of claim 36, wherein said additional reading material of step d is accessible over a network.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein said network is the internet.

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39. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises selecting certain words from said text section, wherein said index includes words present in other text sections, and wherein said additional reading material contains all words in said search request.

40. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises analyzing said text section for the presence of combinations of certain words in a specific order and within a specified proximity of one another, wherein said index includes words from other text sections, and wherein said additional reading material contains the same combinations of certain words in said specific order and within said specified proximity of one another.

41. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises analyzing said text section for patterns of word usage that are recognized by the computer system to relate to a concept.

42. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises analyzing the frequency with which at least one word appears in said text section relative to other words.

43. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises analyzing said text section for citation of references, and wherein said additional reading material cites at least one source cited by said text section.

44. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises analyzing said text section for embedded commands.

45. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises statistical analysis of word usage within said text section.

46. The method of claim 36, wherein the method of formulating said search request comprises identifying an index entry referring to said text section.

47. The method of claim 36, wherein said search request is contained in a list of potential search terms.

48. The method of claim 36, wherein said search request comprises words within said text section of step (a).

49. The method of claim 36, wherein said search request comprises a plurality of words.

50. The method of claim 36, wherein said search request comprises a synonym of at least one word in said text section.

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51. The method of claim 36, wherein said additional reading material is related to said section of text by discussion of identical concepts.

52. The method of claim 36, wherein said additional reading material is related to said section of text by discussion of concepts that are related to one another.

53. The method of claim 52, wherein said concepts are considered related to one another when both are related to a third concept.

54. The method of claim 52, wherein said concepts are considered related to one another when one is included within the other.

55. The method of claim 36, wherein said index is an author's index to said requested text.

56. The method of claim 36, wherein said index is generated automatically by a computer system.

57. The method of claim 36, wherein said index is a search engine.

58. The method of claim 36, wherein said index is accessed via a computer network.

59. The method of claim 36, wherein said display occurs in a browser window.

60. The method of claim 36, wherein said indicator of additional reading material is an excerpt of said additional reading material.

61. The method of claim 36, wherein the indicator of additional reading material is an index term.

62. The method of claim 52, wherein the computer system obtains input from the reader regarding the types of relationships between references to concepts to provide information about in step (d).

63. The method of claim 62, wherein the computer system obtains input from the reader regarding the strength of relationships between related concepts to provide information about.

64. The method of claim 36, wherein said indicator of additional reading material is displayed on an outline of at least one text.

65. The method of claim 36, wherein said index to be searched may be selected by the reader.

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66. The method of claim 36, wherein additional information resident on the reader's computer influences said search request.

67. The method of claim 36, wherein said text requested by the reader is obtained via a computer network.

68. A computer system that, in response to a reader's request for display of electronic text, automatically identifies and provides additional reading material related to concepts referred to within said electronic text comprising:

a) means for accessing electronic text requested for display by the reader, said electronic text containing at least one text section;

b) means for using said at least one text section to automatically formulate a search request related to a concept referred to in said at least one text section;

c) means for, responsive to said search request, automatically searching an index, wherein

i) said index contains a plurality of terms by which it may be searched;

ii) substantially all terms in said index are associated with at least one pointer to a text section; and

iii) at least one term in said index is associated with a plurality of pointers, at least two of said plurality of pointers pointing to different text sections;

d) means for, responsive to step (c), automatically identifying additional reading material related to said concept;

e) means for automatically displaying on said reader's computer display, an indicator of said additional reading material together with at least one link to a source of said additional reading material, side-by-side with a portion of the electronic text referred to in step (a); and

f) a display device controlled by a computer

69. A computer memory storage device encoded with a computer program that, in response to a reader's request for display of electronic text, automatically identifies and provides additional reading material related to concepts referred to within said electronic text comprising:

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- a) means for accessing electronic text requested for display by the reader, said electronic text containing at least one text section;
- b) means for using said at least one text section to automatically formulate a search request related to a concept referred to in said at least one text section;
- c) means for, responsive to said search request, automatically searching an index, wherein
 - i) said index contains a plurality of terms by which it may be searched;
 - ii) substantially all terms in said index are associated with at least one pointer to a text section; and
 - iii) at least one term in said index is associated with a plurality of pointers, at least two of said plurality of pointers pointing to different text sections;
- d) means for, responsive to step (c), automatically identifying additional reading material related to said concept; and
- e) means for automatically displaying on said reader's computer display, an indicator of said additional reading material together with at least one link to a source of said additional reading material, side-by-side with a portion of the electronic text referred to in step (a).